

## **MINUTES**

### **TALBOT COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**6 June 2011**

#### **I. ROLL CALL**

The regular monthly meeting of the Talbot County Historic Preservation Commission was called to order at 3:00 PM on Monday, 6 June 2011. Those members in attendance were Mr. Steven K. Hack, Chairperson, Mrs. Marsha Kacher, Ms. Alice Marie Gravely, Mr. Robert Amdur and Mr. Ward Bucher. Mr. Eric Lowery, and Ms. Peggy Pickall were not present. Representing the County were Mr. Martin Sokolich and Ms. Florence Ball.

#### **II. CURRENT BUSINESS**

- A. REVIEW MINUTES OF 2 May 2011 TCHPC MEETING – The minutes of the last meeting were read; one correction and an addition were noted. Ms. Alice Marie Gravely moved to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Marsha Kacher and carried.
- B. UPDATE: GRANT APPLICATION FOR RESURVEY OF EASTON HISTORIC DISTRICT – Mr. Martin Sokolich reported that the application for the grant was just recently submitted. The County Manager, John Craig, wrote a letter of endorsement which accompanied the grant application. The Town of Easton is ready to get started as soon as the award is received. A determination should be made by the beginning of July. The Town is assuming an award date of 1 August 2011. The projected cost of the project is \$38,000.00. A grant of \$22,800 was requested. The Town has a year to finish the project, and projects completion is expected by the end of July 2012.
- C. 925 PORT STREET (T-347) – Mr. Martin Sokolich said he, Mr. Ward Bucher and Ms. Priscilla Morris met with Rich Towle. Many of Mr. Towle's questions and concerns were addressed at that time, although details are still under discussion. It is expected that Mr. Towle will apply for the Historic District Overlay (HDO) shortly. During the discussions, other interests in the property were brought to light, such as archaeology of the site.
- D. TCHPC EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES – Mr. Martin Sokolich mentioned that although it has been difficult to locate online educational opportunities for Historic Commissions, he has found many online educational opportunities exist for Planning Commissions. So far, for the Historic Commissions, lectures, seminars and conferences seem to be the only opportunities available for CLG educational credits.

Mr. Sokolich distributed information about a conference being held in Buffalo, NY October 19-22, 2011. The deadline for registration is 31 July 2011 in order to take advantage of the reduced rates being offered for registration.

- E. PRELIMINARY LANDMARKS LIST – Mr. Steven Hack said he wants TCHPC to move forward with this project. After reading some inspirational lines from his copy of Where Land and Water Intertwine, he suggested that the Commissioners should begin physical review of the properties on the preliminary landmarks list that has been assembled, and partially edited from the mailing list of MHT properties that was used when the TCHPC brochure was mailed to the owners of those properties last year. It was discussed that the first order of business should be to determine what properties on the list are still in existence. The Commissioners felt it would be best to visit the properties as a group, instead of individually, and that the visits should be organized by region. It was decided that the first attempt at these visits would be on Monday, 20 June which is the same day a site visit to Wye House (T-54) is scheduled. The site visits are to encompass those properties on the list that are in the same general vicinity as Wye House (Bruffs Island, Tunis Mills, Unionville and possibly Longwoods).

*MOTION: Mr. Steven Hack moved to take the list of MHT properties used in last year's mailing to use as the preliminary landmark list, adding or subtracting from it by making group visits to the properties to determine whether they should be included on the list. The motion was seconded by Ms. Alice Marie Gravely and unanimously approved.*

Mr. Martin Sokolich offered to assemble a map of the targeted area with the properties of interest marked on it. He will then provide the group with the map to assist the group in making their site visits in an efficient manner.

Ms. Alice Marie Gravely graciously offered to host a TCHPC function at Beverly (T-240) similar to the one that was held at Fairview (T-60) last fall. She suggested inviting the property owners of the sites the group visits to attend the event.

*MOTION: Ms. Alice Marie Gravely moved that the Commissioners, at next month's meeting, plan and set a date for an afternoon social to be held at Beverly and draft an invitation to be placed in the mailboxes as site visits are done. Mr. Ward Bucher seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.*

It was further decided that the cost of printing the invitations should come out of the TCHPC budget.

- F. MILLER'S HOUSE (T-70) – Mr. Ward Bucher reported that Friends of Wye Mills are ready to buy the Miller's House. They are just \$800 short of funds, and some of the money will not be available until it is owned by the advocacy group.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. SITE VISIT – On 16 May 2011, TCHPC visited Rich Neck Manor (T-211). The house and property was found to be excellently maintained.

The site visit for this month will be at Wye House (T-54) on Monday, 20 June.

Those attending shall meet at the Acme parking lot at 9:15 AM, or go directly to Wye House to convene at 10 AM. After visiting Wye House, the group will proceed with site visits to the properties from the preliminary landmarks list located in the general vicinity of Wye House.

### **IV. OPEN FLOOR**

- A. MEETINGS TO UPDATE THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Mr. Martin Sokolich informed the group that he has scheduled a number of meetings to review the various chapters of the current Comprehensive Plan for possible updates and to determine what goals have or have not been met. He outlined the general procedures, mentioning that the meeting scheduled for 9 June will be to review Chapter 12 *Historic and Cultural Preservation*. Mr. Steven Hack said he feels it would be a good idea to mention the landmarks list at the Comprehensive Plan meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, 11 July 2011 at 3:00 pm in Conference Room One in the Talbot County Office Building at 215 Bay Street in Easton.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 3:55 PM.

7 June 2011